

Appl. No. 10/659,602  
Amdt. Dated Jun. 28, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of March 26, 2004

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:

an insulative housing comprising a base having a pair of side walls, each side wall defining a mating face, a mounting face, an outer face exposed to an exterior in a transverse direction and an inner face opposite to the outer face;

a slot formed between the two side walls and extending along a longitudinal direction;

~~and a plurality of passageways and recesses both defined in~~ ~~on~~ the side walls, ~~each side wall having an outer face~~ each recess extending from a corresponding passageway ~~to the~~ outwardly toward and terminating at the outer face of the sidewall; and

a plurality of electrical contacts received in the passageways of the insulative housing.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The electrical connector as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein the recesses are defined in the mating faces of the side walls.

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Claim 4 (currently amended): The electrical connector as claimed in claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein each passageway has an opening in the inner faces of the side wall.

Claim 5 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 4, wherein each electrical contact has a retention portion interferentially fitted in the passageway, a mating portion extending upwardly from the retention portion and partially exposed in the slot through the opening, and a tail portion extending downwardly from the retention portion.

Claim 6 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 1, wherein the insulative housing comprises a mounting section on each end of the base, the mounting section comprising a pair of stand-offs, a connecting plate connecting lower portions of the two stand-offs, and a pair of support plates extending upwardly and spaced from each other.

Claim 7 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 6, wherein the pair of support plates define a pair of holes, and a pair grooves extending downwardly from top ends thereof to the pair of holes.

Claim 8 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 7 further comprising a pair of latch member assembled to the mounting sections, each latch member comprising a body portion having two opposite side faces, a pair of spindles on the side faces and received in the holes of the support plates, and a locking portion from a top end of the body portion.

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Claim 9 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 7 further comprising a plurality of retention structures each having a mounting portion retained in a corresponding stand-off and a pair of leg portions extending downwardly from the mounting portion.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:  
an insulative housing comprising a base having a pair of side walls, each of said walls defining an outer face exposed to an exterior in a transverse direction;  
a slot formed between the two side walls and extending along a longitudinal direction of the housing perpendicular to said transverse direction;  
a plurality of passageways defined in the side walls along a vertical direction perpendicular to both said longitudinal and said transverse direction, and in communication with the slot.  
a plurality of recesses defined in the side walls, each of the said recesses extending from the corresponding passageway outwardly toward and terminating at the outer face of the side wall so as to be exposed to the exterior in said transverse direction; and  
a plurality of electrical contacts received in the passageways of the insulative housing; wherein  
each of the said recesses remains ~~keeps~~ empty for better heat dissipation.

Claim 11 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein at least some of said recesses communicate with the exterior in the vertical direction.

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Claim 12 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein said recesses are located at a same level.

Claim 13 (currently amended): An electrical connector comprising:  
an insulative housing comprising a base having a pair of side walls, each of said walls defining an outer face exposed to an exterior in a transverse direction;  
a slot formed between the two side walls and extending along a longitudinal direction of the housing perpendicular to said transverse direction;  
a plurality of passageways defined in the side walls along a vertical direction perpendicular to both said longitudinal and said transverse direction, and in communication with the slot.  
a plurality of recesses defined in the side walls, each of the said recesses extending from the corresponding passageway outwardly toward and terminating at the outer face of the side wall so as to be exposed to the exterior in said transverse direction;  
a plurality of electrical contacts received in the passageways of the insulative housing; and  
a printed circuit board inserted into the slot along said insertion direction and mechanically and electrically connected to the electrical contacts; wherein  
each of the said recesses remains ~~keeps~~ substantially unblocked for better heat dissipation.

Claim 14 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 13, wherein at least some of said recesses communicate with the exterior in the vertical direction.

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Claim 15 (original): The electrical connector as claimed in claim 10, wherein said recesses are located at a same level.